

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-06 AF-04 SSO-00 CU-02 L-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 241880

LIMDIS - NESCO

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE: US DEMARCHE ON

ARAB RESOLUTION PROPOSING UNESCO SANCTIONS

AGAINST ISRAEL

REFS: (A) ADDIS 13105, (B) STATE 240797, (C) STATE 240171

1. WHILE RECOGNIZING DIFFICULTIES EMBASSY MAY ENCOUNTER
IN ATTEMPTING TO PERSUADE ETHIOPIA TO OPPOSE UNESCO
SANCTIONS FOR ISRAEL PER INSTRUCTIONS STATE 240797,
DEPT HAS DECIDED TO REQUEST EMBASSY TO CARRY OUT
INSTRUCTIONS FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

A. WHILE ETHIOPIA MAY REGARD ISSUE AS PERIPHERAL, UNESCO
DECISION TO APPLY SANCTIONS TO ISRAEL IS BOUND TO HAVE
AN ADVERSE IMPACT ON U.S. CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC
SUPPORT FOR UNESCO AT A CRITICAL PERIOD IN THE ORGANIZA-
TION'S EVOLUTION. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT ADVERSE DOMESTIC

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REACTION MIGHT EVEN AFFECT OUR CONTINUING FINANCIAL

CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNESCO AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

B. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ETHIOPIA RECEIVES CONSIDERABLE ASSISTANCE FROM UNESCO. THEREFORE WE BELIEVE THAT ETHIOPIA DOES HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE CONTINUATION OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR UNESCO PROGRAMS.

C. INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED STATE 240797 SENT TO ALL ARAB AND OTHER CO-SPONSORS OF DRAFT RES WHICH WOULD APPLY SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL BECAUSE OF JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS. YOU MAY SO INFORM ETHIOPIA SO THAT HOST GOVERNMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT ITS KEY ARAB-MOSLEM FRIENDS ARE ALSO BEING APPROACHED ON THIS MATTER TO WHICH USG ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE.

D. WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH CONCERTED APPROACH MIGHT LEAD SUPPORTERS OF DRAFT RES TO CONSULT IN PARIS AND AGREE TO ELIMINATE SANCTION PROVISION FROM RES. INGERSOLL

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